

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the claim amendments and following remarks. Claims 21-24 have been added. Currently, claims 1-24 are pending in the present application of which claims 1, 10, 16, 20, and 21 are independent.

No new matter has been introduced by way of the claim additions; entry thereof is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Bowers et al. (U.S. Patent Number 5,963,134). The above rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the reasons set forth below.

Drawings and Information Disclosure Statement

At the outset, the indication that the Information Disclosure Statement filed on May 30, 2001 has been considered is noted with appreciation. Additionally, the Examiner's indication, via a voice mail received September 21, 2004, that the drawings have been approved is also noted with appreciation.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The test for determining if a reference anticipates a claim, for purposes of a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102, is whether the reference discloses all the elements of the claimed combination, or the mechanical equivalents thereof functioning in substantially the same way to produce substantially the same results. As noted by the Court of Appeals for the Federal

Circuit in *Lindemann Maschinenfabrik GmbH v. American Hoist and Derrick Co.*, 221 USPQ 481, 485 (Fed. Cir. 1984), in evaluating the sufficiency of an anticipation rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102, the Court stated:

Anticipation requires the presence in a single prior art reference disclosure of each and every element of the claimed invention, arranged as in the claim.

Therefore, if the cited reference does not disclose each and every element of the claimed invention, then the cited reference fails to anticipate the claimed invention and, thus, the claimed invention is distinguishable over the cited reference.

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Bowers et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed because the claimed invention as set forth in claims 1, 10, 16, 20, and the claims that depend therefrom are patentably distinguishable over Bowers et al.

Bowers et al. discloses an inventory system using articles with RFID tags. The articles are deposited into a bin having an interrogator which reads the RFID tags and stores information regarding the contents of the bin. See Figure 6. Additionally, Bowers et al. discloses the use of a portable reader to interrogate the RFID in order to collect status information which may then be stored in a database. See Column 9 lines 59-63. The status information in Bowers et al. includes check in/out status, location, item identification information, and patron ID. See Figure 4. Bowers et al. maintains a database system for a plurality of books or documents within a library system.

The Office Action alleges that Bowers et al. teaches, at Column 9 Line 55 - Column 10 Line 21 and at Column 10 Lines 36-46, using the identifier to obtain an address for the resource as recited in claims 1, 10, 16, and 20. However, the Applicants assert that Bowers et

al. fails to teach using the identifier to obtain an address for the resource. Instead, Bowers et al. discloses storing a physical address for a book. The physical address for a book is the location of the book within the shelves of the library and is input by a user. See Column 15 Lines 21-57. Therefore, the identifier is not used “to obtain” but merely to identify the book; as the physical location of the book must be input from another source (the user of the system).

Additionally, the physical address of the book is completely different than the address of a resource. The Office Action assumes that the “entity” and the “resource,” as recited in claims 1, 10, 16, and 20, are somehow the same thing. This is simply not true. A tag associated with the entity is read in order to retrieve information to register the resource. Whereas Bowers et al. discloses reading an RFID tag in order to determine the location of the book having the tag.

Accordingly, Bowers et al. fails to teach all of the features contained in claims 1, 10, 16, and 20, and thus, these claims are believed to be allowable. Claims 2-9 depend upon allowable claim 1, claims 11-15 depend upon allowable claim 10, and claims 17-19 depend upon allowable claim 16 and are also allowable at least by virtue of their dependencies.

Additionally, dependent claim 3 recites “wherein the registry is a computational abstraction that can be browsed by users in the form of web pages; and wherein the registry can be queried automatically by other programs.” Dependent claim 6 recites “wherein the address for the resource is a URL.” Dependent claim 9 recites “generating a web page for the registry.” These features relate to web pages and universal resource locators. Bowers et al. fails to teach web pages or URLs and therefore fails to teach all of the features contained in

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claims 3, 6, and 9. Claims 11, 14, 17, and 18 recite features similar to the features in claims 3, 6, and 9 and therefore are also allowable over Bowers et al. for similar reasons.

Newly Added Claims

Claims 21-24 have been added. Claim 21 includes elements similar to the elements in claim 1 and therefore is allowable over the prior art of record for similar reasons. Claims 22-24 depend upon claim 21 and are allowable at least by virtue of their dependencies. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to allow claims 21-24.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejections of record and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

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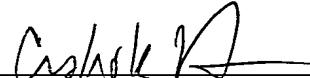
Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would assist in resolving any issues pertaining to the allowability of the above-identified application, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below. Please grant any required extensions of time and charge any fees due in connection with this request to deposit account no. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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